

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
PROGRAM EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

IAC Conference Room
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
September 3, 2009, 2:00 p.m.

Earl Williams, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Earl Williams, Suzie Rentschler, Pam Hicks, Carol Trexler

Members present via teleconference: Sandi Clark, Jeanne Mirro (ex officio)

Members absent: Kelly Schreckengast, Judy Hess

IAC Staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Dennis Hardin

Guests: Glenn Roberts (Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra), Michael Jonson (Indianapolis Opera)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Mr. Williams convened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Ms. Hicks moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Rentschler seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Williams announced that the committee would move to agenda item #4, followed by agenda item #3.

4. **Review Evansville Philharmonic's Appeal for Inclusion in the Majors.** Mr. Ricci opened the discussion by reviewing the grant category "Majors"; during the FY2008-2009 granting cycle, the category of Majors was expanded to include 13 recipients, with all grants being competitive, i.e., no organizations were "grandfathered" into receiving grant awards as had been the case in prior years. Ms. Garver reviewed the three criteria upon which an appeal for reconsideration may be based: a) the review of the application was based on review criteria other than those published in the IAC's printed guidelines; b) the decision was based on the influence of a Commissioner, IAC staff member, IAC sub-contractor, or advisory panelist(s) with disclosed or undisclosed conflicts of interest; c) required information submitted by the applicant was withheld from the advisory panel or from the Commission. Ms. Garver then reviewed the scoring procedure in the panel review. Mr. Ricci reviewed the names of the panelists who constituted the Majors panel. He then reported that the score assigned to the application from the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra was 85, below the average score of 89.65, and that the lowest score which ultimately was funded was 87. Mr. Williams remarked that all committee members had received copies of the written appeal for reconsideration from the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, and asked if there were any further questions. Ms. Hicks moved to recommend to the full commission that the appeal of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra be disallowed. Ms. Trexler seconded. Motion passed.

3. Review Indianapolis Opera's Appeal for Inclusion in the Majors. Ms. Garver began the discussion by explaining a discrepancy in the budget submitted by the Indianapolis Opera's application for a Majors grant, which did not affect the scoring by the review panel. Mr. Ricci reviewed that there were 17 applications in the Majors category for FY 2010-11, and that the pre-determined number of grant awards was 13. The application from the Indianapolis Opera garnered a score of 86, placing it among the bottom three scores, and below the average score of 89.65. Mr. Williams asked if there was any further discussion based upon the written letter of appeal for reconsideration from the Indianapolis Opera. Ms. Rentschler moved to recommend to the full commission that the appeal of the Indianapolis Opera be disallowed. Ms. Trexler seconded. Motion passed.

5. Review Proposed Changes in Individual Artist Program for FY 2011. Ms. Davis presented a handout (attached) outlining proposed changes in the IAP grants for FY2011, and explained each item for the committee. Ms. Rentschler moved to adopt the proposed changes. Ms. Hicks seconded. Motion passed.

6. Review 2010 Arts in Education Guidelines and Application. Ms. Britsch presented a handout (attached) outlining proposed changes for the FY2010 Arts in Education grants. The application deadline is October 1, 2009 and the panel review will be on November 5, 2009, with grantees being notified in January 2010. Ms. Hicks moved to adopt the proposed changes. Ms. Rentschler seconded. Motion passed.

7. Old Business. Mr. Ricci reviewed for the committee that the Regional Arts Partnerships with the Bloomington Area Arts Council and the Arts Council of Southern Indiana have been suspended, and that grants which had been previously administered by those organizations are now being administered by IAC, including assigning the monetary amounts for grants, as was approved by the full commission at the June meeting. Mr. Williams reminded the committee of suggestions made at the last meeting by Ms. Rentschler regarding streamlining the grant application process. Ms. Rentscher further suggested that spreadsheets be incorporated into applications in lieu of lengthy narratives, and that other narrative questions about board and staff membership and diversity be eliminated. Mr. Ricci responded that the staff is indeed working on making the application process less cumbersome.

8. New Business. There was no new business.

9. Adjourn. Ms. Hicks moved to adjourn. Ms. Rentschler seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.